



Docket No. 2746-012

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :

Elena BRUNELLI et al. :

Serial No. 09/435,020 : Group Art Unit: 2876

Filed: November 5, 1999 : Examiner: J. A. Franklin

For: DISTORTION CORRECTION METHOD IN OPTICAL CODE READING

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is being submitted in response to the Examiner's filed reasons for allowance as issued February 18, 2004.

It is believed that no extension of time is required to maintain the pendency of this application. However, if an extension is required, kindly consider this to be a petition therefore. It is not believed that any fee is due with the filing of this response. However, if any fee is due, kindly charge the same to the undersigned attorneys' deposit account 07-1337

In her reasons for allowance, Examiner Franklin has referred to only some of the steps in the main claim of this application. Specifically, she has mentioned the presence of a grid, but has not indicated if this is a regular grid, which is what the claims call for.

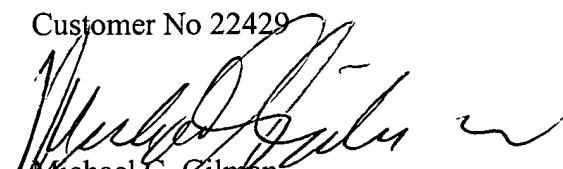
Further, the examiner has mentioned "the notable points" on line 5 of point 4, however, this feature does not have antecedent basis in the statement as "notable points had not previously been mentioned in the Comments.

It is believed that the Reasons for Allowance would be clearer if the examiner's statement was modified as follows (the additions are set forth in underline):

"The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art record fails to teach, or fairly suggest either alone or in combination thereof, a method of correcting distortion of a deformed image derived from reading an optical code, generating a regular grid including a plurality of notable points, generating a grid of the deformed image to identify a plurality of characteristic points in the deformed image, each of the characteristic points corresponding to one of the notable points; and generating an regular grid an undistorted image by means of a geometrical transformation correlating the characteristic points and the notable points. In contrast, the Seto reference does not disclose an optical code."

Respectfully submitted,

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Docket No 4666-012
May 10, 2004

MGG